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**To:** Microsoft ATR  
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I welcome the opportunity to comment on the settlement in U.S. vs Microsoft. Not only should this case be settled now it should never have been litigated in the first instance. The irony of this is that the case was initiated ostensibly to protect consumers. What a farce! Far more of OUR tax money was spent by the government in prosecuting this case than could have ever been saved on behalf of the consumer even in the wildest dreams of the bureaucratic do-gooders. Moreover anyone with a scintilla of common sense (and there are many of us) realizes that this misguided case against one of the great companies of the world contributed in part to one of the greatest stock market declines since '29. Plain and simple putting Microsoft in a funk with this ALLEGED antitrust case caused negative reverberations throughout the market affecting crybabies like Sun Microsystems Scott McNealy et. al. who sparked the government's knee-jerk reaction in the first instance. This antitrust suit cost the American consumer millions of dollars to prosecute and far more than that in stock market losses which were part of the fallout from the government's case against Microsoft. The bottom line is the American public does not need government intervention in cases of this nature. If corporations feel put upon by competitors let them seek relief by paying for their own litigation. The most appropriate expression for these corporation whiners (and I have stock in some of them) is If you can't run with the big dogs stay up on the porch. Approving this settlement now will prevent further bloodletting of the American consumer through more misguided attempts by the govern